

Commander's Corner: Force Projection Directorate (FPD)

During the month of July, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce one of the USAMMA key directorates. The Force Projection Directorate's (FPD) mission is to provide medical logistics situational awareness, customer support, centralized program management, materiel planning, programming, and execution, to ensure medical materiel is available to support Army operations and the security assistance program.

The FPD consists of several key programs.

- Army Prepositioned Stocks (APS)/Class VIII
- Medical Chemical Defense Materiel (MCDM)
- Unit Deployment Packages (UDP)
- Reserve Component Hospital Decrement (RCHD)
- Medical Materiel Readiness Program (MMRP)
- Foreign Military Sales (FMS)

Prepositioned materiel is a critical element of the Army's ability to project forces worldwide. The USAMMA prepares the Class VIII materiel in partnership with the Army Materiel Command (AMC) that manages all other classes of supply in APS. HQDA owns and authorizes release of the APS. The materiel is prepositioned at multiple locations to optimize strategic lift capability worldwide. The program consists of Brigade and Unit Sets, Operational Projects, and Sustainment Stocks. The USAMMA's proven ability to deliver APS Class VIII materiel in a timely manner is a critical part of the Army's Strategic Mobility Program.

The MCDM program enhances readiness by fielding countermeasures used in the protection and treatment of Soldiers in the event of a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attack. These counter measures include: pretreatment and acute treatment. The MCDM program also provides skin decontamination antidotes along with Potency and Dated (P&D) items for the Medical Equipment Set, Chemical Agent Patient Treatment. To ensure immediate availability, the MCDM is positioned at strategic locations worldwide and prepared for rapid shipment to deploying units. This materiel is issued to deploying or forward deployed forces in coordination with OTSG approval.

The UDP program provides early deploying (Days 1-31), Echelon Above Brigade (EAB), medical units with their basic load of medical and nonmedical P&D materiel. These EAB units are identified through the evaluation of Operational Plans and OTSG Guidance. The UDP program is critical for the rapid support to contingency operations, stability and support operations, Homeland Security, and the Global War on Terrorism. Supported units include: Hospitals, Dental, Veterinary, Preventive Medicine, Air and Ground Ambulance Companies, Forward Surgical Teams, and other specialized EAB teams.

The RCHD program provides long-term care of supplies in storage for all hospitals in the U.S. Army Reserve. The program provides the decrement between MTOE required and authorized materiel. Upon deployment, the RCHD materiel brings the units from their peacetime authorized levels to Authorized Level of Organization-one (ALO-1). The USAMMA manages the storage, sustainment, and maintenance of medical equipment, supplies, and non-medical Associated Support Items of Equipment (ASIOE) in the units. The materiel is stored at the Sierra Army Depot located in Herlong, CA

The MMRP is a concept program that supports the ARFORGEN model with centralized assets to increase readiness in support of Ready and Available Active and USAR units. This program currently consists of three 248 Bed Corps CSHs fully upgraded N-series hospitals to include the required nonmedical ASIOE. The fourth CSH will be upgraded to the N Series Oct-Nov 09. These four hospitals will be made available to any component for shipment from Sierra Army Depot in support of COCOM or Homeland Defense within 72 hours. These 248 Bed hospitals are currently flagged to USAR hospitals within the RCHD program. Medical maintenance COSIS cycles are conducted on all medical maintenance significant equipment IAW manufacturer specifications. The non-med ASIOE COSIS is conducted annually.

The Foreign Military Sales Office offers technical and logistical expertise to countries that have special equipment needs. The FMS Office can coordinate for USAMMA Clinical engineers to survey facilities and existing equipment. These capabilities include designing and providing recommendations based on the type and number of facilities, patient capability, and location. Many times, existing systems such as the Deployable Medical Systems and diagnostic imaging equipment are tailored based on customer requirements. By employing a total package approach, we ensure that each customer is afforded the opportunity to plan or obtain the support articles and services required to introduce and operationally sustain equipment considered for purchase.

Security Assistance is a group of programs authorized by the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and the Arms Export Control Act of 1976 as well as other related statutes by which the United States provides defense articles, military training, and other defense related services, by grant, loan, credit or cash sales in furtherance of national policies and objectives. In performing this function, USAMMA's FMS staff interfaces with foreign governments, security assistance organizations and other U.S. Government agencies to define the requirements involved in responding to Security Assistance requests.

For additional information access our website at: <http://www.usamma.army.mil> or you can contact USAMMA Customer Relations Management at: 301-619-4301/6901/1288 or e-mail usammacrm@amedd.army.mil.